

# St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

43 O' Donnell Ave.

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**Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2023**

**Newsletter No: 2**

**Term: 1 - Week: 4**

## School Notices

### Yard Supervision:

Morning: 8:30 - 8:55am

Afternoon: 3:20 - 3:35pm

### Bell Times:

School Begins 8:55am

Recess: 11:10-11:30am

Lunch: 1:30 - 2:20pm

Finish: 3:20pm

### Student Absences:

Please phone the office by 9:00am if your child will not be at school on 57 521808.

Or mark absence on PAM.



### Term 1

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April

### Term 2

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April

### Term 3

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September

### Term 4

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>

December



Click on the link

## MASS TIMES

### Myrtleford

Saturday @ 6:00pm

Sunday @ 9:00am

### Bright

Sunday @ 11:00am

### St Patricks Whorouly

Last Sunday of the  
Month @ 5:00pm

## SPECIAL THANKS

A very special thank you to Sonia Rinaldo and Adam Pasqualotto for the tremendous effort in the school garden. The Foundation area has been revamped and the school garden beds are looking beautiful. Thank you to Carter Holt Harvey who donated bark to the school and McPhersons donated bluestone for the paths in the Foundation garden. We are enormously grateful to these two Myrtleford businesses.



## MARIA DOHERTY

As you know we were very sad to hear about the passing of our beautiful Maria Doherty. We held a prayer session for Maria last Friday with the children, and the children then had time in class to share stories and memories of Maria. As yet, a date has not been set, but a memorial service will be held in the near future. Understandably many teachers will be attending on the day, and we will have teachers from across other schools supporting us while teachers attend the service.

## YEAR 3/4JH

As you know Julie has been sick, but she is on the mend and should be returning to school soon. Julie will re-organise teacher/parent interviews. We thank Liz Crawford who came out of retirement to support the school and teach the Year 3/4 children. Liz has stated they are an absolute delight to teach.

## INCREASING STANDARDS IN LEARNING

Over the years teachers have studied and implemented new strategies within every classroom. Explicit and direct teaching along with the Science of Reading, and a focus on spelling has had an amazing impact on the results of our student outcomes. These areas will continue to be our focus for the next coming years as we continue to develop our skills in teaching.

## VOLUNTEERS

Just a reminder if you wish to volunteer at St Mary's could you please fill in the Volunteer form so I can get the paperwork completed (according to Child Safe legislation) and we can then put your name on the books for the future. This form only needs to be completed once.

The electives program is still going to be held next term, but we do need volunteers to run sessions that will go for an hour every second week on a Monday. Each group will have about ten students varying in age group. Please let me know if you would like to be a part of the electives program.



## PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING

We held our P and F meeting on Monday, but the time may not have suited as we only had two people attend. I will send out minutes to the people that sent in names at the end of last year. As this is our 100th year of education in Myrtleford we are hoping to have a number of activities throughout the year. The idea of running a fete was suggested but perhaps in a different format however this will require a committee on its own. This is a one off event, and if you would prefer to help out in any way e.g. cooking sausages, setting up the electrical equipment, providing entertainment- (I have heard we have some musicians out there), or any other stall you can think of, please let me know via e-mail or phone so we can ascertain if a fete is a viable event to hold in 2023.

Kitty's e-mail: [khancock@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au](mailto:khancock@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au)

Phone Number: 0487 772 234

Thanks, and have a good week.

Kitty

*St Mary's Primary is committed to students experiencing a sense of inclusion that is respectful of their giftedness, abilities, culture and contexts. Our student's experience learning and teaching in a child safe environment that is engaging and liberating.*

## SIGNING YOUR CHILD IN & OUT & LATE TO SCHOOL PROCESS

All Children who arrive at school after 8:55am or leave school before 3:20pm MUST be signed in/out at the office.

If for any reason, you need to take your child out of school during school hours, please come to the office to sign your child out.

## STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school for any reason, it is vital that you notify the school prior to 9am, giving the reason for the absence e.g. If your child is sick, attending an appointment, family holiday etc.

- Mark absence on PAM.
- Send a note with your child on their return to school, or beforehand if you know in advance
- School answering machine is on out of hours, so you can leave a message 57521808



## CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

You can access information about the Child Safe Standards and St. Mary's commitment to the implementation of these standards, including resources, policies, procedures and links, via the school website ([www.smmyleford.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smmyleford.catholic.edu.au)).

## SCHOOL NEWS

### DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY	
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	O & M Division Swimming Wangaratta
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly at EMPAC 2:30pm
MARCH	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Foundation Rest Day
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly 2.30pm EMPAC
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup>	SLC Camp Sovereign Hill Ballarat
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	St Mary's Whole School Mass for Centenary 9:30am
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	School Photos
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly at School 2:30pm
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	O & M Division Tennis Wangaratta







**SCHOOL PHOTOS 2023 - Important Registration Information**

*School Photographs will be taken at St. Mary's Primary School Wednesday 22nd March 2023*

There is no need to return any forms or payment to school before photo day

**Flyers with Unique Image Codes will be issued to all students on or after photo day**

When you receive your child's 2023 image code

**Follow these 3 simple steps -**

- 1 Go to [order.arthureedphotos.com.au](http://order.arthureedphotos.com.au) and enter your child's 2023 image code
- 2 Tap on 'Add another child to enter the image codes of any siblings'
- 3 Fill in your contact details & review before confirming your registration

**That's it!**

It's important to register each year to link your child's NEW images to your contact details. When 2023 images are ready to view in our secure webshop you'll be notified by email and SMS

• Create photo packages with any layout & YOUR choice of images • Multiple Image Downloads • Order on any mobile device • Share the images with family & friends for FREE

\*\* Please wait to receive notifications that new images are online BEFORE ordering for 2023 \*\*

**AR P**  
Arthur Reed Photos

Arthur Reed Photos Pty. Ltd.  
14/41 Glenview Drive  
Glenview NSW 1511  
(02) 5241 4300  
[customerservice@arthureedphotos.com.au](mailto:customerservice@arthureedphotos.com.au)

## SCHOOL PHOTOS WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH, 2023 - ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Annual school photos including sibling photos will be taken by Arthur Reed Photos on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023.

**There is no need to return any forms or money to school.**

Unique image codes will be issued to all students on/after photo day so families can register online to view images when they become available in the webshop.

Registration is simple, just follow the 3 simple steps on your child's personalised flyer once you receive it and remember to add the codes for all your children attending this school.

Even if you registered last year, it's important that you do again this year using your child's 2023 image code to link their images for the current year with your contact details.

When images are ready to view and in the webshop, all parents who have registered will be notified by SMS and email.

**Once registered, please wait for notification that 2023 images are online to view before making your purchase.**

## CATHOLIC IDENTITY NEWS

*"Dear brothers and sisters, may the Holy Spirit inspire and sustain us this Lent in our ascent with Jesus, so that we may experience his divine splendour and thus, confirmed in faith, persevere in our journey together with him, glory of his people and light of the nations." Pope Francis*



## ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL CENTENARY YEAR



Our school was officially opened and classes started on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1923.

**What is on...**

- Whole school Mass on Friday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am
- School Community, Parish, past and present students and families Mass on Saturday March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, followed by a light supper. (The Official 100 Years Anniversary).
- Friday October 6<sup>th</sup> students will return to the 'olden days' with games and an olden times dress up day.
- Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup> 'Celebration Day' starting at 10am. Past and present students, staff, parish members and families will come together for a reunion, school tours and pasta lunch.

## SHROVE TUESDAY/PANCAKE TUESDAY

Thank you to all the families who joined us for a lovely pancake breakfast on Tuesday morning. It was a lovely get together with lots of yummy pancakes to be enjoyed. Thank you to the staff for preparing, cooking and serving the pancakes.

Thank you also to those who donated eggs and toppings for the pancakes, all contributions were gratefully received. At the last count, we raised nearly \$200 for Project Compassion. Look at the photos at the back of this newsletter.

## ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

St Mary's, Marian College and the Parish community came together to start the season of Lent with the Ash Wednesday Mass yesterday.



This week, the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal. Donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

The theme of Project Compassion 2023 is 'For All Future Generations' and reminds us that the good we do today extends to impact the lives of generations to come. It invites us to make the world a better place by working together now and finding long-term solutions to global issues. We encourage you to put your compassion into action this Lent through prayer, fasting and almsgiving in support of Project Compassion.

Each family will receive a Project Compassion box for their donations which can be sent into your child's classroom when it has been filled. All boxes need to be returned to the school with donations by the end of this term.

## 2023 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

### Reconciliation (Year 3 and above)

Parent Information Evening: Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the McMahon Centre

Reconciliation Celebration: Tuesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm St Mary's Church

## Confirmation and Eucharist (Year 4 and above)

Parent Information Evening: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July at 6:30pm

### Confirmation and Eucharist Masses

Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup> 6pm St Mary's Church

Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup> 9am St Mary's Church

A letter will be going home this week to students in Years 3 and 4, if you have an older child who would like to receive the Sacrament, please let me know.

Have a glorious week,  
Jo Bennett (REC)

## JUNIOR NEWS

Thank you to all families who made it to our parent teacher interviews last week. If you were unable to attend, please contact your child's teacher.

This term in LETI and Religious Education, the junior students will be focusing on the topic "All About Me" and "We grow in God's love" which celebrates all the wonderful things that make us unique and special. We will be working through the personal and social capabilities which help students identify and describe personal interests, skills and achievements and how these might contribute to school or family life.

Our key understandings are as follows:

- I am unique and there is no one like me.
- I have many talents and skills.
- Our families are all different and special. We come from different places.

We will look forward to sharing all of our investigations and work with you at the end of the term.

### FOUNDATION

The Foundation students have been working hard on the initial learning of letters and sounds and the connection between letters, words and sentences. They have made an impressive start already, making words as a group.



Our religion topic is similar to our LETI topic, about how we are all special and unique. We took the opportunity to draw and paint selfies, which we can't wait to display in our classroom!



In maths this week, we are identifying 2D shapes and looking for them in the environment.



## YEAR 1

In Literacy, Year 1 students have been working on sentence structure, handwriting and use of phonemic awareness skills. We have been using a book called the 'Very Hungry Giant' by Joy Cowley to investigate the use of nouns and verbs in sentences. In spelling, we have been learning about voiced and unvoiced sounds, this week is /th/ making the unvoiced 'th' sound as in 'thumb'.

In Maths, the students have continued to explore the place value of numbers to 100 and have been showing these numbers in various ways by modelling and writing and numbers using MAB.

## Year 2

In Literacy Year 2 have continued to work on their sentence structure, handwriting and use of phonemic awareness skills in their reading and writing. In Maths, the students have continued to explore the place value of numbers to 1,000 and have been showing these numbers in various ways by writing, drawing and demonstrating numbers using MAB.

In Religion we are familiarising ourselves with our Catholic belonging. Mrs Bennett took us to the Church last week and explained all of the interesting details. This week Mrs Bennett took us to the Convent to visit the museum inside.

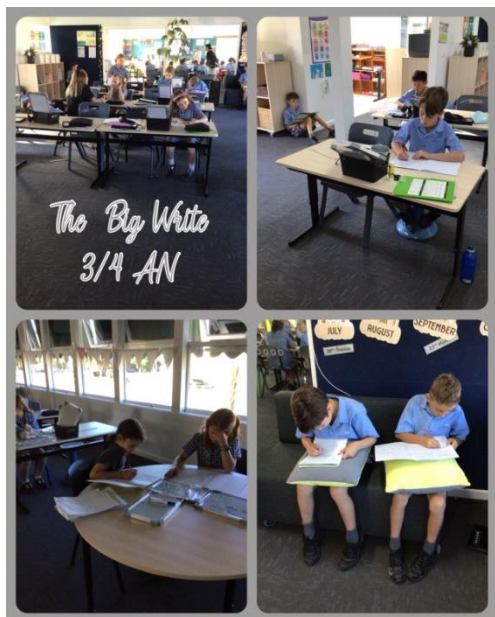
Have a wonderful week,  
Ashley, Carolyn, Sandra and Jo





## MIDDLE NEWS

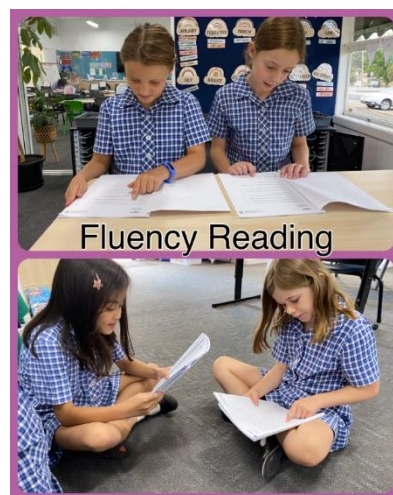
We are settling into the daily routines in the MLC. It is great to see the students organising themselves on arrival for their learning.



Fluency Reading is taking place and the students are enjoying asking each other questions to ensure that they have comprehended the text.

SMART Spelling should be coming home for your child/ren to complete each night. This needs to be returned to school on Friday, prior to their SMART Spelling test. Challenge your child/ren to create a sentence using their spelling words or to simply air/sky write their words whilst saying the letters to you.

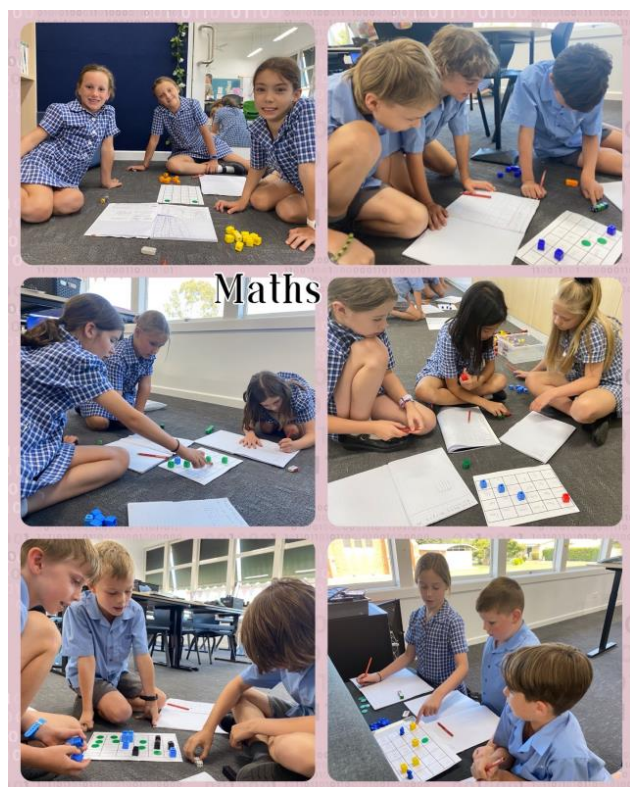
The students will be writing to persuade the educators to try their chosen sport, hobby or activity in their 'Big Write' this week. We will be looking for an introduction, at least 3 reasons and a conclusion.



We are covering a range of topics in Maths, including:

- Converting between millimeters, centimeters and meters and using a ruler to measure objects;
- Asking an information question, collecting, recording and presenting the data;
- Exploring the place and value of a multi-digit number; and
- Problem solving.

Please ask your child/ren about Rocket Math and Mental Maths that they complete everyday in Maths. Here is a link to 'Place Value Knockout 2.0' that the students have enjoyed playing - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXoh4pgdJo4>







Thank you to the parents in 3/4AN for your time and contribution to the Parent Teacher Interviews. It was lovely to meet you all. Liz, April, Lucia and Anna

## SENIOR NEWS

My how the time is flying by. Only a couple of weeks until camp. A note went home last week outlining the shoes for camp. If anyone is having trouble with this please let us know.

### MATHS

In the SLC we have been working on our mental math, particularly subtraction using our whiteboards. We have to solve the problem then "chin it" to show our working and solution.



### WRITING

Our Big Write topic this week was RESTRICTION. There was a huge improvement in everyone's writing stamina and their starters to hook our attention.

### BLUEARTH

This week we played Barry, a game that requires the students, as with many Blueearth games, to work together. It took a while but the students finally got a system. We continue to encourage participation, good sportsmanship and self umpiring.

### RELIGION

Congratulations to our students who have willingly taken on roles in our school masses. It is great to see so many children having a go at reading or participating in these special events, these opportunities help the children develop a sense of time and place, respect and dignity. We continue to work in pairs, learning about the Church in Australia. The students will present their findings to the class as an oral presentation.





## CAMP

Please make sure you are aware of the requirements for students to prepare for school experience at Sovereign Hill. We will send home a note with clothing requirements, reminder of times and any other information.

Congratulations to our students of the week:

Week 2 - Benji Lupo and Hunter Szaraszek.

Week 3 - Zahlee Power, Ashton McManus

We have been investigating the history of religion in Australia and each pair has a significant person or event to research. After creating a Google Doc with their information, we all had to present this to the rest of the SLC. This was a challenging task as the information was quite tricky to find, read and understand but everyone put in a great effort!!

Have a great week

Gab, Hannah and Ruth



## SHROVE TUESDAY - PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH OUR FAMILIES















### Piano lessons DURING SCHOOL

Peter Benson is a full-time piano teacher and has been teaching piano for 36 years, and the last 16 years teaching students from St Mary's Primary School. He has a Bachelor of Creative Arts in Composition and Jazz Piano from the University of Wollongong. He is a qualified Prep to 12 classroom music teacher. For many years he has worked as a professional musician, as a solo artist and in various band lineups. Some of his students have gone on to work as professional musicians.

Lessons are \$44 for 30 minutes,  
or \$41 for 30 minutes if the invoice is paid on time.

Please call 0411 127 335



Myrtleford - Memorial Park - Tuesday 28th February  
Mount Beauty - Les Peart Oval - Wednesday 1st March  
Bright - Oaks Lawn Pioneer Park - Thursday 2nd March  
5:00pm - 7:30pm each day | Food stalls onsite | BYO Chairs & picnic rugs

**Friends of Lacluta Fundraiser Evening**

**Saturday, March 25th 2023**  
**Smorgasbord Dinner**

**\$50 p/p**  
(Buy your own drinks)

**6 pm for a 6:30 pm start**

Bookings essential:  
Club Savoy (03) 57511296

**Club Savoy Myrtleford**

**Guest Speaker:** Margie Beck AM,  
Former Deputy Director Marist Teachers' College, Timor Leste

**Auctions:** Local experiences, services, wines and accommodation  
**Mega Raffle**

Funds will support education and health programs in Timor Leste

Hello School Community,

At the end of 2022 I reminded some of you about the group of Myrtleford/Wang people who travel to Lacluta in Timor Leste (East Timor).

Thank you for your wonderful support at the end of the 2022 school year. We have a large box of pencils, rulers and books to take over this year.

Until COVID struck we had visited almost every year since 2008.

Late last year we had a visit once again!

While over there we work in the Kindergartens and Schools (Government and Catholic) as well as supporting the Medical Centre and encouraging the growth of Community/School gardens.

The work we do and the transport of gifts from Australia cost more than they used to, as I know you will understand.

On Saturday 25th March we are holding our first Fund Raising Dinner for some years. This will be at Club Savoy again.

As a Speaker, we have engaged an inspiring woman who has worked for many years in one of the few Teachers Colleges in TL.

It would be wonderful if some of you teachers and parents were able to come along and support us there.

To book phone Club Savoy {03 5751 1296}

Regards,  
Barbara Broz  
(Friends of Lacluta)

**Could \$500 help with next year's back to school costs?**

Learn tips and tricks to grow your budget and saving skills. Save for 10 months. Get up to \$500 of matched savings for school expenses. Just in time for 2024.

**Must meet all eligibility criteria:**

- Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card **AND** an eligible Centrelink payment\*
- Be studying yourself OR have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
- Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)\*
- Be 18+ years old

\*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible

**For more info, visit [saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au) or call 1300 610 355.**  
To fill in an online enquiry form, **CLICK HERE.**

### Saver Plus – helping take the stress out of back to school time

The Saver Plus community program has helped over 55,000 Australians take the stress out of back to school time. It's free for eligible people to join.

At Saver Plus, we pair you with a savings coach while you budget and save over the next 10 months. You attend online workshops to learn tips, tricks and information to grow your budgeting and savings skills. Once you reach your agreed savings goal, ANZ matches your savings dollar-for-dollar, up to \$500. You can use that money towards education costs such as uniforms, text books, laptops or extra-curricular activities such as sport or music.

You could be eligible to join Saver Plus if you:

- have a Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- are at least 18 years old
- have some regular income from work (you or your partner) including casual, part-time, full-time or seasonal (we also accept child support and carer's payment as income)
- have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

If you're eligible, start now and we'll help take the stress out of next year's back to school.

To find out more, or to apply, go to [www.saverplus.org.au](http://www.saverplus.org.au) or call 1300 610 355



## CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below are the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

### Criteria 1 – General eligibility

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or carer of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one
  - on the first day of Term two
- a) be a holder of one or more of the eligible financially-means tested cards OR be a temporary foster parent, and;
- b) submit an application to the school by the due date.

For the list of eligible financially-means tested cards refer to the CSEF Policy:

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/policy>

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with the above.

### Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

### Special Consideration

A special consideration category exists for

- Families on a bridging visa, temporary protection visa, in community detention or are asylum seeker families
- Students in temporary out of home care arrangements, including statutory kinship care

For more information, see <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/guidance/eligibility>

### Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/carer concession card being validated successfully with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (30 January 2023) or term two (24 April 2023).

## PAYMENT AMOUNTS

### CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see:

[www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx)

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents/carers so please register your interest at the school.

## HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

**NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN**

1. Complete the PARENT/CARER DETAILS section.

Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.

If you are claiming as a temporary Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.

If you are seeking special consideration, mark this in the form and provide a copy of the relevant documentation.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2023 closes on the 23 June 2023.